

AMENDMENT OF THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims below replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims:

1 1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:
2 receiving a call request from a first media gateway controller to a second
3 media gateway controller over a network;
4 requesting information from the first media gateway controller; and
5 receiving the information before establishing a bearer path over the
6 network.

1 2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the call
2 request comprises receiving the call request over a packet-based network.

1 3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the call
2 request comprises receiving the call request over an Asynchronous Transfer Mode
3 network.

1 4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein receiving the call
2 request comprises receiving an a BICC IAM message.

1 5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the call
2 request comprises receiving the call request over an Internet Protocol network.

1 6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein receiving the call
2 request comprises receiving an IAM message encapsulated in a ~~SIP-T~~ Session Initiation
3 Protocol message.

1 7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein requesting the
2 information comprises requesting the information in a ~~SIP-T~~ Session Initiation Protocol
3 message.

1 8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein requesting the
2 information comprises providing a digit map within the ~~SIP-T~~ Session Initiation Protocol
3 message.

1 9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein requesting the information
2 comprises requesting digits to establish a call session.

1 10. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including terminating the call in
2 response to receiving the information.


1 11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein requesting the information
2 comprises requesting the information in response to determining that additional digits are
3 desired to terminate the call.

1 12. (Original) An apparatus, comprising:
2 a first interface coupled to a packet-based network; and
3 a controller communicatively coupled to the first interface, the controller
4 to:
5 receive a call request from a media gateway controller over the
6 packet-based network;
7 determine if at least one digit is required to establish a call session;
8 and
9 receive the at least one digit from the media gateway controller
10 over the packet-based network from the media gateway controller in response to
11 determining that the at least one digit is required.

1 13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the packet-based network
2 comprises one of an Asynchronous Transfer Mode network and an Internet Protocol
3 network.

1 14. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the controller is
2 adapted to receive the call request in one of a BICC IAM and ~~SIP-T IAM~~ Session
3 Initiation Protocol message.

1 15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the controller is further
2 adapted to request the at least one digit from the media gateway controller over the
3 packet-based network.

 1 16. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the controller is
2 adapted to receive the at least one digit in at least one of a ~~SIP-T~~ Session Initiation
3 Protocol message and a BICC message.

1 17. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the controller is
2 adapted to request a digit map within the ~~SIP-T~~ Session Initiation Protocol message.

1 18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the controller is further
2 adapted to complete the call session in response to receiving the at least one digit.

1 19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the controller is further
2 adapted to receiving information during the call session.

1 20. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:
2 a first interface ~~coupled to couple~~ to a first network;
3 a second interface ~~coupled to couple~~ to a packet-based network; and
4 a controller communicatively coupled to the first and second ~~interface~~
5 interfaces, the controller to:
6 receive a call request over the first network from a party terminal;
7 transmit the call request over the packet-based network to a media
8 gateway controller;

9 prior to a call session being established in response to the call
10 request, receive a request to collect digits from the media gateway controller over the
11 packet-based network;
12 collect digits from the party terminal; and
13 transmit the collected digits to the media gateway controller.

1 21. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the first network is a
2 Signaling System #7 network.

1 22. (Original) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the controller is adapted to
2 receive the call request in an IAM message.

1 23. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the packet-based network
2 comprises one of an Asynchronous Transfer Mode network and an Internet Protocol
3 network.

1 24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the controller is adapted to
2 collect the digits from a media gateway over the packet-based network.

1 25. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the controller is
2 adapted to collect the digits from the media gateway according to ~~over~~ at least one of a
3 Megaco protocol, a media gateway controller protocol, a simple gateway controller
4 protocol, and an Internet protocol device control.

1 26. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the controller is
2 adapted to transmit the digits within a ~~SIP-T~~ Session Initiation Protocol message.

1 27. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the controller is
2 adapted to receive the request to collect the digits from the media gateway within a ~~SIP-T~~
3 Session Initiation Protocol message.

1 28. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the controller is further
2 adapted to receive a request to collect digits after establishing a call session.

1 29. (Original) An article comprising at least one machine-readable storage
2 medium containing instructions that when executed cause a processor to:
3 receive a request to establish a call session over a packet-based network
4 from a media gateway controller;
5 request information from the media gateway controller; and
6 receive the information from the media gateway controller before
7 establishing a voice path over the packet-based network.

1 30. (Original) The article of claim 29, wherein the instructions when executed
2 cause the processor to receive the request over one of an Asynchronous Transfer Mode
3 network and an Internet Protocol network.

1 31. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 29, wherein the instructions
2 when executed cause the processor to receive the request in one of a BICC IAM and ~~SIP-~~
3 ~~T-IAM~~ Session Initiation Protocol message.

1 32. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 29, wherein the instructions
2 when executed cause the processor to request the information in a ~~SIP-T~~ Session
3 Initiation Protocol message.

1 33. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 29, wherein the instructions
2 when executed cause the processor to receive the information in a ~~SIP-T~~ Session
3 Initiation Protocol message.

1 34. (Original) The article of claim 29, wherein the instructions when executed
2 cause the processor to establish the voice path over the packet-based network.

1 35. (Original) The article of claim 29, wherein the instructions when executed
2 cause the processor to receive the information indicating that the request may not be
3 completed.

1 36. (Original) The article of claim 29, wherein the instructions when executed
2 caused the processor to receive a request for information after establishing the voice path
3 over the packet-based network.

1 37. (Currently Amended) A data signal embodied in a carrier wave
2 comprising instructions that when executed cause a processor to:
3 receive a call request from a media gateway controller over a packet-based
4 network; and
5 receive at least one digit in one of a BICC and a SIP-T Session Initiation
6 Protocol message from the media gateway controller before establishing a voice path
7 over the packet-based network in response to the call request.

1 38. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the call request
2 comprises receiving a Session Initiation Protocol Invite message containing an ISUP
3 initial address message (IAM), wherein requesting and receiving the information occurs
4 prior to sending a Session Initiation Protocol OK message in response to the Invite
5 message.

1 39. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the information
2 comprises receiving the information in a Session Imitation Protocol Info message.

1 40. (New) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the controller is adapted to
2 receive the at least one digit prior to establishing the call session in response to the call
3 request.

1 41. (New) The apparatus of claim 40, wherein the call request comprises a
2 Session Initiation Protocol Invite message, and wherein the controller is adapted to
3 receive the at least one digit in a Session Initiation Protocol Info message.

1 42. (New) The apparatus of claim 41, wherein the controller is adapted to
2 receive the at least one digit in a Session Initiation Protocol Info message prior to the
3 controller sending a Session Initiation Protocol OK message in response to the Invite
4 message.

1 43. (New) The article of claim 29, wherein the request comprises a Session
2 Initiation Protocol Invite message, and wherein requesting the information from the
3 media gateway controller comprises sending a Session Initiation Protocol Info message to
4 the media gateway controller prior to establishing a call session in response to the Invite
5 message.

1 44. (New) The data signal of claim 37, wherein the call request comprises a
2 Session Initiation Protocol Invite message, and wherein receiving the at least one digit
3 comprises receiving the at least one digit in a Session Initiation Protocol Info message
4 prior to establishing a call session in response to the Invite message.
